

**Fresno, CA** - Today, Congressman Jim Costa (CA-20) announced that schools are eligible to apply for the Live In-Flight Downlink offered by NASA Spaceflight Education Opportunities (NSEO); which allows students, educators and community members to communicate with in-flight astronauts.

“This is an exciting chance for students to gain first-hand knowledge on a range of subjects from interacting with crewmembers on an in-space flight,” Congressman Costa said.

The live in-flight downlink allows students and educators to interact with the crew for 20 minutes and is provided at no cost to the host organization. This will be part of a well-planned education experience and help to expand on the information students have received in schools.

Interested schools are encouraged to submit applications, which will be judged on a number of criteria. The downlink must be designed to respond to a need identified by the education community, make direct use of NASA to involve educators and students from a diverse community and expand on already existing science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs in the school.

Please visit <http://aesp.nasa.okstate.edu/jsc/tfsp/Documents/howtoguide.pdf>

for additional information. Or contact Fabiola González at my Fresno District Office, 559-495-1620.

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